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June 29, 1999

Dr. Jeffrey Labovitz
Office of Technology Licensing &
Industry Sponsored Research
Goldenson Building
220 Longwood Avenue, Suite 141
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Re: Replica Amplification of Nucleic Acid Arrays
Inventors: George M. Church
U.S. Serial No.: 09/143,014
Our Ref. No.: 10498/75641
Your Ref. No.: 1438-97

Dear Dr. Labovitz:

Enclosed is a copy of a second non-final Office Action we have received in the above-referenced patent application.

As you can see, the rejection of claims 1-10, 12-14, 18-21 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for alleged lack of novelty over Maniatis was maintained. It appears that the Examiner did not accept our previous argument regarding definitional limitations to the claims, and that a claim amendment will be necessary. In addition, another §102(b) rejection has been made with respect to claims 1-10, 12-15, 17-21 and 28 over Cantor et al. Although we have not yet reviewed Cantor et al. in detail, from my brief review of the reference, it does not appear that this reference will present a problem. Finally, claims 22-37 are allowed and claims 11, 16 and 39 are considered allowable if rewritten in independent form.

A response to this Office Action is due **September 14, 1999** with extensions available upon payment of fees until **December 14, 1999**. If we do not hear from you by July 14, we will proceed with preparation of a response so as to avoid incurring extension fees.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Williams

KMW/am
enclosures
cc: Joyce Brinton